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New internal home page goes on-line

By Mike Garren

Starting Jan. 20, employees will be able to get the information they need faster using the new JSC Internal Home Page on JSC's intranet. The new internal home page is better organized which means it will be easier to find information.

"All of the 'big hit' items have been transformed into icons and located at the top of the page," said



Marcus Friske of the Information Systems Directorate's Information Technology Office. Importance and number of past hits or requests for information helped determine what became an icon.

As an example, the JSC online

phone directory is "hit" or accessed thousands of times a month. Therefore the phone list icon appears at the top of the new page. Just point your computer's cursor at the image of the telephone, "click" with your left mouse button and the JSC

online Phone List screen is ready to serve you.

Click the "Search" icon and trigger a powerful new search engine that helps you find information located centerwide. "Safety and Total Health," "ISO-9000," a "JSC Organization List" and "What's New" complete the clickable images near the top of the page. Information activated by these colorful graphical icons

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NASA Photo

The STS-89 crew poses in the white room at the entrance to *Endeavour* at Kennedy Space Center's Launch Pad 39A during Terminal Countdown Demonstration Test activities. From left are Mission Specialist James Reilly, Pilot Joe Edwards, Commander Terry Wilcutt; Mission Specialists Bonnie Dunbar and Salizhan Sharipov. In back are, from left to right, Mission Specialists Andrew Thomas and Michael Anderson.

Endeavour, crew ready for launch

By Kyle Herring

Endeavour sits poised on the launch pad ready to return to space after a year and a half hiatus with the countdown set to begin early next week for the next shuttle launch to Mir on the night of Jan. 22.

The launch team and the flight crew completed the traditional launch countdown dress rehearsal last weekend. Commander Terry Wilcutt, Pilot Joe Edwards, Payload Commander Bonnie Dunbar and Mission Specialists Jim Reilly, Mike Anderson, Salizhan Sharipov and Andy Thomas climbed aboard the orbiter early Saturday morning for the Terminal Countdown Demonstration Test, which culminated with a simulated main engine shutdown.

Thomas will ride to Mir as the replacement for David Wolf who has been aboard the station since *Atlantis*' last visit to the station in September.

If all stays on schedule, *Endeavour* will liftoff at 8:48 p.m. CST Thursday and dock with Mir on Saturday shortly after 2 p.m. After five days of joint operations, *Endeavour* will back away from Mir just before 11 a.m. Jan. 29 and land back at Kennedy Space Center about 4:30 p.m. Jan. 31.

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JSC employees receive pay increase

JSC civil service employees will see a pay increase of about 2.7 percent this month.

The pay increase includes a 2.3 percent general increase that Congress approved for all federal employees, and a 0.4 percent locality pay component, said Ted Boyes, JSC's classification and wage officer.

For example, a GS-12, Step 1, employee who made \$47,831 in 1997 will make \$49,124 in 1998. A

full 1998 salary table is available in the "What's New" section of the Human Resources Office home page on the Internet at: <http://hro.jsc.nasa.gov/>.

A JSC Announcement and pay table also will be distributed to all civil service employees.

White Sands Test Facility employees will receive a 2.9 percent increase overall; a 0.6 percent locality pay component accounts for the difference.

JSC employees have been receiving varying locality pay components for several years as the total of 11.96 percent is phased in. Houston has the second highest locality pay component in the country.

In Houston, some employees will receive only a 2.3 percent increase because they are on special occupational pay schedules. These employees, most of whom are GS7-11 engineers or medical officers, are not eligible to receive

locality pay because their pay schedules already exceed that raise.

The raise officially went into effect Jan. 4, and employees will see it in their pay checks Jan. 27, Boyes said.

Senior Executive Service, Senior Scientific and Professional and NASA Excepted Senior level pay schedules will get both general and locality increases, subject to a pay cap of \$125,900, Boyes added.

Rothenberg to head office of space flight

Joseph Rothenberg, director of Goddard Space Flight Center, has been named to head the agency's Office of Space Flight, NASA Administrator Daniel S. Goldin announced last week.

Rothenberg will lead the Human Exploration and Development of Space enterprise.

Goldin named Alphonso Diaz to succeed Rothenberg as Goddard's director. Diaz currently is the deputy director at Goddard.

Rothenberg will be responsible for all NASA human space flight programs, as well as a variety of expendable launch vehicle operations and tracking and communications functions. The appointment

was effective Monday.

"I am pleased that Joe Rothenberg is joining our senior management team at NASA Headquarters," Goldin said. "He brings a wealth of experience and a fresh perspective as NASA's human space flight enterprise enters a new era with the construction of the International Space Station. NASA Goddard has thrived under his leadership over the last three years, and now I have asked him to turn his talents to another set of challenges. I know Goddard will be in capable hands with Al Diaz at the helm."

Rothenberg began his aerospace career with Grumman Aerospace in 1964, where he managed the devel-

opment of flight hardware, test and launch systems for the Orbiting Astronomical Observatory series of spacecraft. In 1983, he joined NASA Goddard as operations manager for the Hubble Space Telescope, leading the team which developed the orbital operations of the telescope.

In April 1987, he was appointed chief of the Mission Operations Division at Goddard. In September 1989, he was named deputy director of Mission Operations and Data Systems, and from 1990 to 1994 he served as associate director of flight projects for the space telescope. Rothenberg provided the project leadership which resulted in

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Joseph Rothenberg